

Laos

US State Dept Travel Advisory

The US Department of State currently recommends US citizens **RECONSIDER TRAVEL** to Laos due to COVID-19. Consult its website via the link below for updates to travel advisories and statements on safety, security, local laws and special circumstances in this country.

<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/traveladvisories/traveladvisories.html>

Passport/Visa Requirements

US citizens should make sure their passport will not expire for at least 6 months after they enter the country even if they do not intend to stay that long. They should also make sure they have at least 2 blank pages in their passport for any entry stamp and or visa that will be required. A visa is required. US citizens will need to get in touch with the country's embassy or nearest consulate to obtain a visa prior to visiting the country.

US Embassy/ Consulate

[856] 21-48-7000; US Embassy Vientiane, Ban Somvang Thai, Thadeua Road, Km 9, Hatsayfong District, Laos

Vaccinations

See WHO recommendations

<http://www.who.int>

Climate

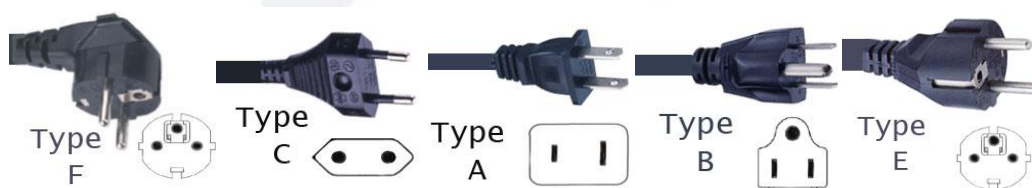
Tropical monsoon; rainy season (May to November); dry season (December to April)

Currency (Code)

Kips (LAK)

Electricity/Voltage/Plug Type(s)

230 V / 50 Hz / plug type(s): A, B, C, E, F



Major Languages

Lao, French, English, various ethnic languages

Religions

Buddhist 64.7%, Christian 1.7%, none 31.4%, other/not stated 2.1%

Time Difference

UTC+7 (12 hours ahead of Washington, DC, during Standard Time)

Potable Water

Opt for bottled water.

International Driving Permit

Suggested

Road Driving Side

Right

Tourist destinations

Elephant Village Sanctuary; Four Thousand Islands (includes Khone Pha Pheng Waterfall); Kong Lor Caves; Wat Phu;; Vientiane; Luang Prabang (former royal city); Plain of Jars

Cultural Practices	It is considered very rude to touch another person's head or to touch their body with your feet.
Tipping Guidelines	Tipping is not customary except in tourist-oriented restaurants where 10% of the bill is appreciated, but only if a service charge has not already been added. Tour guides and day-long drivers expect \$10-15 (USD) per day for a gratuity. Tip hotel staff \$2-3 (USD) per day for their service .
Telephone Code	856
Local Emergency Phone	Local numbers only

Please visit the following links to find further information about your desired destination.

[World Health Organization \(WHO\) - To learn what vaccines and health precautions to take while visiting your destination. http://www.who.int](http://www.who.int)

[US State Dept Travel Information - Overall information about foreign travel for US citizens. https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/international-travel.html](https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/international-travel.html)

[To obtain an international driving permit \(IDP\). Only two organizations in the US issue IDPs: American Automobile Association \(AAA\) \(www.aaa.com\) and American Automobile Touring Alliance \(AATA\) \(www.aataidp.com\)](http://www.aaa.com)

US citizens may call the US Dept of State (+1-202-501-4444) for emergencies abroad.

Tuesday, April 20, 2021